

attached to an affidavit and the table does not exclude the likelihood that the undisclosed limitations are not probable or possible.

In traversing the Examiner's position, Applicants file an additional Table containing the experimental data in the Form of a Rule 132 Declaration. Carbon blacks of HAF, ISAF and SAF grades were prepared and assessed for the characteristics of (1) DBP; (2) Dw/Dn; (3) Tint; and (4) N<sub>2</sub>SA, and then evaluated for an equation of  $Tint \geq 0.100 \times (N_2SA) + 93$ . As seen from the results shown in the Table, carbon blacks of HAF grade to SAF grade only satisfy the equation of  $Tint \geq 0.100 \times N_2SA + 93$ . These carbon blacks do not satisfy the characteristics of (1) DBP nor (2) Dw/Dn, except for an obtained value of Dw/Dn for "N299" (in ISAF grade).

From the enclosed Table, it is apparent that the HAF, ISAF, and SAF grades of carbon black disclosed in *Hojo* do not necessarily meet the specific characteristics recited in claim 1 of the present invention. The results shown in the Table clarify that the features of the carbon black as claimed in the present invention **are not inherent** in the carbon black disclosed in *Hojo*. In other words, the data shown therein confirm that the carbon blacks of the present invention differ from the prior art carbon blacks.

*Hojo* merely sets forth conventionally known carbon blacks, as generally exemplified in ASTM. In contrast, the carbon blacks used in the present invention are novel carbon blacks.


Further, the carbon black used in the present invention has an ultra-high structure because it satisfies the parameter of DBP ranging from 140-200. It should be emphasized again, as asserted in the Argument filed October 24, 2003, that the specific characteristics of carbon blacks disclosed in the present invention, having an ultra-high structure and a broad aggregate distribution, are not inherent in HAF, ISAF and SAF grades of carbon black disclosed in *Hojo*.

YAMADA et al.  
Appln. No. 09/695,317  
Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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